



## Today's Message

Date: September 20, 2020  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: ***Fish, Barley Bread, and the Promises of God***

Text: Luke 9:10–17 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida. <sup>11</sup> When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. <sup>12</sup> Now the day began to wear away, and the twelve came and said to him, “Send the crowd away to go into the surrounding villages and countryside to find lodging and get provisions, for we are here in a desolate place.” <sup>13</sup> But he said to them, “You give them something to eat.” They said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.” <sup>14</sup> For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” <sup>15</sup> And they did so, and had them all sit down. <sup>16</sup> And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. <sup>17</sup> And they all ate and were satisfied. And what was left over was picked up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

Introduction: The sermon text contains an account of one of Jesus' most famous and astounding miracles, a miracle of creative power displayed before thousands. It served as the climactic moment in Jesus' Galilean ministry and set the stage for a probing question he posed to his disciples in 9:20, “Who do you say that I am?”

**I. The story retold: Once again, Jesus confirmed the truth of his message with a display of unparalleled creative power.**

- A. The disciples returned from their Galilean mission to report great things they had accomplished. 10a
- B. Jesus advanced the disciples' training by performing his most memorable miracle.
  - 1. Jesus ministered to the people, though the timing was inconvenient. 10b-11
  - 2. Jesus instructed the disciples to feed the people, but they lacked the ability. 12-14a
  - 3. Jesus did what the disciples could not do, displaying creative power. 14b-16
  - 4. Jesus provided for the people, giving more than was sufficient for their needs. 17

**II. Truth to receive: Jesus is the promised Christ!**

- A. He is the perfect Prophet who speaks for God.
- B. He is the perfect Priest who brings us to God.
- C. He is the perfect King who rules for God.

**III. Implications to remember: Jesus is able to do for you what no one else can do.**

- A. He cares for you more than anyone else does.
- B. He can do for you what you cannot do for yourself.
- C. He gives life to everyone who trusts his word.